

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 809

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Pat Fuller on being named a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Pat Fuller will be recognized as a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association at the organization's 29th Annual Women of Distinction Awards Luncheon; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious event honors a number of women who have distinguished themselves through their professional, civic, and volunteer service; the event also benefits the important work of the American Lung Association in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Pat Fuller possesses an energy that is both powerful and infectious and embraces life with a passion that is equaled only by her gift for helping others; and

WHEREAS, before building a second career as owner of Cleveland's Orange Blossom Boutique eight years ago, Pat Fuller and her husband, Gary, owned one of the nation's top-producing cosmetics franchises for twenty-seven years; today, she couples her love for fashionably attiring Cleveland's female population with her "buy great, not good" motto; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Fuller is actively involved in humanitarian efforts both globally and locally; since 1996, she has devoted several weeks per year to the Ca-Ira Children's Village in Haiti, where she cooks and cleans while loving the children there unconditionally; and

WHEREAS, in February 2014, Pat made her sixth trip to El Negrito, Honduras, to work in a medical clinic while her fellow Rotarians installed their third water filtration system; locally, she

volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and The Caring Place; and

WHEREAS, this human dynamo also serves on the mission board of Broad Street United Methodist Church and the advisory board of Family Promise, which helps homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence; and

WHEREAS, Pat Fuller is past president of the Bradley Sunrise Rotary Club and was honored as Rotarian of the Year by her peers; she housed exchange students from Italy and Norway and entertained each of Rotary District 6780's international students for an entire weekend. She also plays an instrumental role in the club's annual gala, which raised more than \$350,000 for local causes over the past four years; and

WHEREAS, children and family are integral to Pat's life, and each year, the Fullers host a mother-daughter dinner for participants in Bradley County's Distinguished Young Women competition, the nation's largest and oldest national scholarship program for high school girls, and also open their home to young ladies during the week-long state competition; and

WHEREAS, epitomizing the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, Pat Fuller takes her place among the many noble citizens who have earned Tennessee the nickname of "The Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Pat Fuller who use their talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Pat Fuller on being named a 2014 Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association, thank her for all she has done to make her community and this State a better place to live and work, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.